

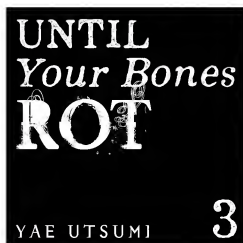
UNTIL
Your Bones
ROT

YAE UTSUMI

3

UNTIL

Your Bones



ROT

C O N T E N T S

*The
Forty-
Second
Night*

1 5 1

*The
Thirty-
Third
Night*

0 5 3

*The
Twenty-
Eighth
Night*

0 0 3

*The
Forty-
Third
Night*

1 6 3

*The
Thirty-
Eighth
Night*

1 0 3

*The
Thirty-
Fourth
Night*

0 6 3

*The
Twenty-
Ninth
Night*

0 1 3

*The
Forty-
Fourth
Night*

1 7 3

*The
Thirty-
Ninth
Night*

1 1 5

*The
Thirty-
Fifth
Night*

0 7 3

*The
Thirtieth
Night*

0 2 3

*The
Fortieth
Night*

1 2 5

*The
Thirty-
Sixth
Night*

0 8 3

*The
Thirty-
First
Night*

0 3 3

*Extra:
To Change,
to Change
Back*

1 8 4

*The
Forty-
First
Night*

1 3 5

*The
Thirty-
Seventh
Night*

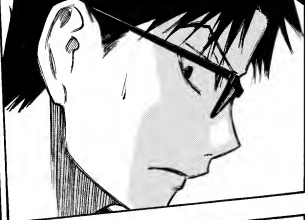
0 9 3

*The
Thirty-
Second
Night*

0 4 3



The
Twenty-Eighth
Night



NO!!
NO
MORE!!

NO
MORE
!!!



KER-CHAK!

!!





WHAT
SHOULD
I DO?
WHAT CAN
I DO...?

DAMN
IT!!



HOW
NICE FOR
YOU, BEING
ABLE TO
SAY SOME-
THING LIKE
THAT...

"CALM
DOWN"
?



AFTER
THAT, WE
CAN TRY
TO THINK
ABOUT
WHAT
WE'LL
DO—

HEY...
LET'S
TRY TO
TAKE A
MOMENT
AND
CALM
DOWN.



HOW
AM I
SUPPOSED
TO "CALM
DOWN"
...



SHIN...



YOU
HATED
AKIRA,
DIDN'T
YOU?

OH...
RIGHT.



...WHEN
MY BEST
FRIEND
JUST GOT
KILLED
...?!



...



HAHA...
HAHA...
HAHA...

THAT'S
WHY...
YOU'RE
TOTALLY
FINE...



YOU TAKE
TSUBAKI AND
HARUKA AND
GO TO THE
CAVE!

I'M GONNA
CLEAN UP
THIS ROOM
AND HIDE
THE BODY
SOMEWHERE,
ALL RIGHT?

SHIN...
LISTEN
TO ME.



I'M...
GOING
OUT
TO KILL
HIM....!!

YOU
DON'T
GET TO
DECIDE
SHIT!!!



ONCE
WE'RE
THERE, WE
CAN—

I'LL
COME
AFTER
THAT.



THEN...

I'M
GOING TO
CUT HIM
UP, ONE
PIECE AT A
TIME, WHILE
HE'S STILL
BREATH-
ING!!!

SHUT
UP...







**Kusottemo tai* (lit. "even rotten, *tai* is still *tai*") is a Japanese proverb which refers to something that retains its value despite some perceived negative condition. The saying originates from *tai* (red seabream), an auspicious food served during special occasions, rotting more slowly than other fish. The proverb is positive, but Rvu's take on it is not.



...LET
GO
OF
ME.

SO,
PLEASE...
JUST
DON'T
BECOME
ROTTEN
TO THE
BONE.





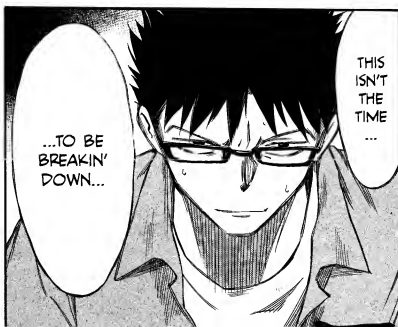


The Twenty-Ninth Night



YOU
GOTTA
STAY HERE
A LITTLE
WHILE.

I'M
SORRY,
AKIRA...







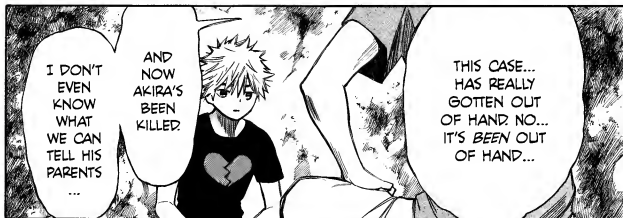
WELL, YOU
SEEM A
BIT BETTER
THAN
EARLIER.

...OH,
IT'S
YOU,
RYU.





I...
CAN'T
THINK OF
ANYTHING
BESIDES
TURNING
OURSELVES
IN.



I DON'T
EVEN
KNOW
WHAT
WE CAN
TELL HIS
PARENTS
...

AND
NOW
AKIRA'S
BEEN
KILLED.

THIS CASE...
HAS REALLY
GOTTEN OUT
OF HAND. NO...
IT'S BEEN OUT
OF HAND...



IT COULD
BE SAFER
FOR US
IF WE'RE
UNDER
POLICE
CUSTODY.

AND WHO
KNOWS
WHAT KINDA
DANGER
WE MIGHT
BE IN...





ARE
YOU
REALLY
SAD?



I...SAW...
WHAT
HAPPENED
THE NIGHT
OF THE TRIP.
AKIRA...
HE...

YOU
WEREN'T
REALLY
DATING
AKIRA,
WERE
YOU?



...HUH
?



WE'RE
TALKING
ABOUT WHAT
WE SHOULD
DO! WE NEED
ALL THE
FACTS!

NOW
IS THE
TIME!!

LET IT
REST,
HARUKA!
NOW
ISN'T THE
TIME...



THERE
WAS
ANOTHER
LIE.

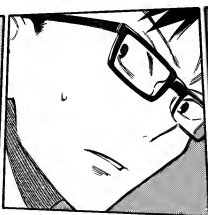
WRITING: WATCH OUT FOR AKIRA KANZAKI

...THAT
YOU LEFT
FOR ME.

A
TRAGIC
ONE,
NOW...



*The
Thirtieth
Night*





WRITING: WATCH OUT FOR AKIRA KANZAKI





BUT... IT
COULD'VE
BEEN
ANY ONE
OF US,
THEN...



AND
THE ONLY
PEOPLE
WHO EVER
COME TO
MY HOUSE
ARE YOU
GUYS...

I'VE
NEVER
TAKEN
THAT
ALBUM
OUT
OF MY
ROOM.



EXCEPT
...

NONE OF
YOU ARE EVER
IN MY ROOM
WITHOUT ME.



SHIN...

...

IF I WERE
ASLEEP...
SHE COULD
WRITE
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT
WITHOUT ME
NOTICING.



...TSUBAKI
COMES BY
EVERY
MORNING
TO WAKE
ME UP.







HEHE
...

HEHE...
HEHEHE...



I SHOULD'VE
BEEN STRAIGHT
WITH YOU FROM
THE START...

I'M
SORRY,
EVERY-
ONE...



...AKIRA
...



WHAT'RE
YOU...

TSU-
BAKI
...



THAT'S
WHY
I WENT
OUT
WITH
HIM.

...TRIED
TO TURN
HIMSELF
IN.



WHAT...
DO YOU
MEAN BY
THAT?



WHAT
...?



AKIRA...



WHAT
...?

...SAID
THAT TO
ME.



AND THEN
HE SAID, "I
WON'T TURN
MYSELF IN
IF YOU
DATE ME IN
EXCHANGE."

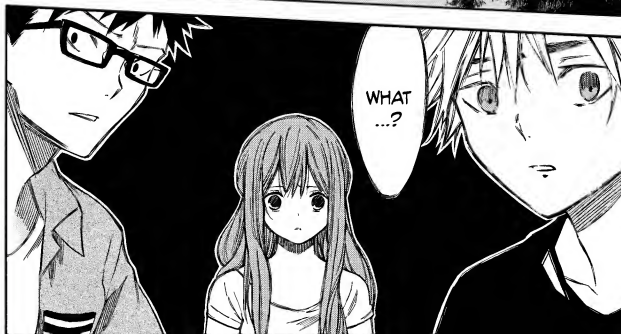
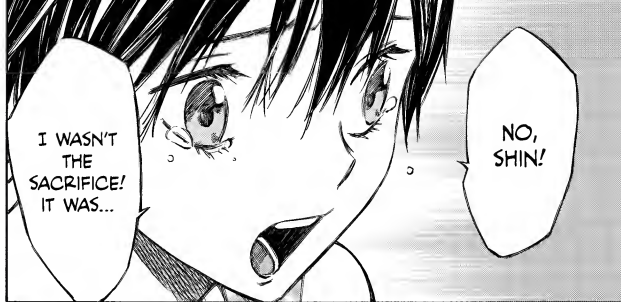
AKIRA
CAME TO ME
AND SAID HE
WANTED TO
TURN HIMSELF
IN... AND I
STOPPED HIM.



...IT
WAS FINE
BY ME.

I
THOUGHT...
IF THAT'D
KEEP HIM
FROM
CONFESS-
ING...





WHOOSH

WHOOSH



The Thirty-First Night

AKIRA

...

ARE YOU
CRYING?





AKIRA

...

...TRIED TO
SACRIFICE
HIMSELF?



NO...
YOU
HAVE IT
WRONG
...

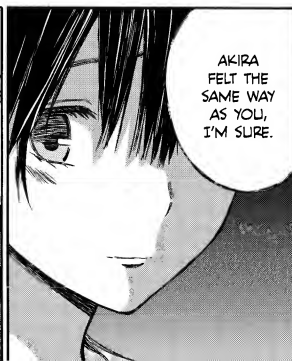
BUT... IF
HE TURNED
HIMSELF IN,
WE'D ALL BE
ARRESTED...!

ARE YOU
SAYING HE
WAS TRYING
TO PROTECT
US?!



...FOR
KILLING
SHIN'S
DAD.

HE WAS
GOING
TO TAKE
ALL THE
BLAME...





AH...



AKIRA...
ALWAYS
PUT UP
A BRAVE
FRONT...

...BUT
REALLY,
HE WAS
GENTLE...
AND
TENDER-
HEARTED
...



THE
ONE WHO
FIRST
SUGGESTED
WE KILL
HIM...

...WAS
AKIRA.



HE
COULDN'T
BEAR THE
WEIGHT OF
THE CRIME
ON HIS
SHOULDERS
....!

THAT'S
WHY... HE
FELT LIKE
IT WAS HIS
FAULT.



HEY,
TSUBAKI
...

...



WILL
YOU
TELL
US?

WHAT
KIND OF
THINGS
DID YOU
AND
AKIRA
TALK
ABOUT?

...AND
FALLING
APART
....!

HE
WAS
FALL-
ING...





THE ONLY
WAY IS
FOR ME TO
TAKE SOLE
RESPONSIBILITY...!

THE
ONLY
WAY...



AAAGH
!!

IT'S ALL
RIGHT,
AKIRA...

BUT I'M
SCARED!
I'M
SO, SO
SCARED
!!

AAA
H!



...



I'LL
COMFORT
YOU, AS
MUCH
AS YOU
NEED...

I'LL
BE WITH
YOU...



I'M
SORRY,
TSUBAKI

...



...



...AND
I STILL
DO THIS...

I KNOW
HOW YOU
FEEL ABOUT
SHINTARO

...



I... NEED
TO GET
STRONGER,
TOO.



IF I TAKE
THE BLAME
AND GET
ARRESTED

...

...I'LL
JUST
MAKE
EVERYONE
ELSE
SUFFER

...







...OH.
GOOD
MORNING
...

The Thirty-Second Night



YO.

AUGUST
11TH



OH,
WHO CARES
ABOUT
THAT! LOOK
WHAT I
FOUND!

AN
UNMARRIED
WOMAN
LIKE YOU...

NAGASE...
ANOTHER
WORKPLACE
ALL-
NIGHTER?!



...I
FIGURED
OUT
WHO IT
BELONGS
TO.

THAT
BODY WE
FOUND IN
YATSUMORI
...

HE'S
FROM THIS
PREFECTURE.



Shigeru Sato

1973

SHIGERU
SATO.
BORN 1973.
43 YEARS
OLD.

YES.

AS OF NOW,
PARTS HAVE BEEN
DISCOVERED FROM
FOUR DIFFERENT
AREAS. THE PARTS
HAVE BEEN GROUPED
AS FOLLOWS: 1, THE
HEAD AND ORGANS;
2, THE CHEST AND
RIGHT ARM; 3, THE
WAIST AND LEFT
ARM; AND 4, THE
RIGHT LEG.

IS
THAT
SO...

THE
BODY WAS
BURIED
ACROSS
SEVERAL
DIFFERENT
LOCATIONS,
CORRECT?

YES...
BUT LOOK
HERE. THIS
MAN...

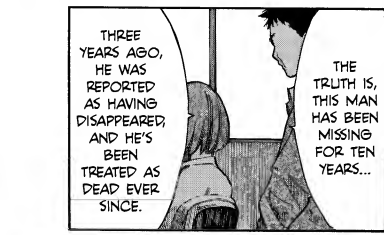
DID
HE
HAVE
ANY
FAMILY
?

ONLY
THE LEFT
LEG IS
MISSING
...



...AS
OF
THREE
YEARS
AGO.

...HAS
BEEN
DEAD
...



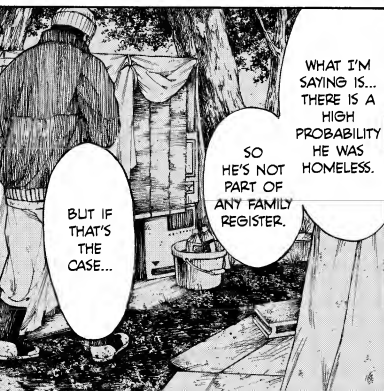
THREE
YEARS AGO,
HE WAS
REPORTED
AS HAVING
DISAPPEARED,
AND HE'S
BEEN
TREATED AS
DEAD EVER
SINCE.

THE
TRUTH IS,
THIS MAN
HAS BEEN
MISSING
FOR TEN
YEARS...



THAT BODY
COULDN'T
HAVE BEEN
MORE THAN
A FEW
DAYS OLD
...

WHAT?!
THAT
CAN'T
BE!



BUT IF
THAT'S
THE
CASE...

SO
HE'S NOT
PART OF
ANY FAMILY
REGISTER.

WHAT I'M
SAYING IS...
THERE IS A
HIGH
PROBABILITY
HE WAS
HOMELESS.



NO,
I'M NOT
SAYING IT
WAS.

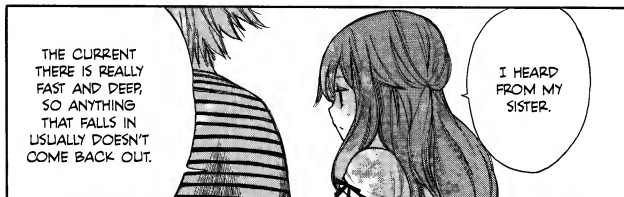






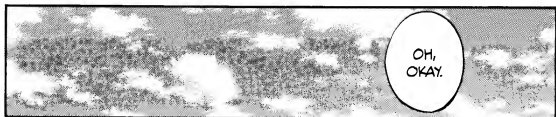
YEAH...

...SO.
YOU REALLY
THINK THAT
PLACE'LL
WORK?



THE CURRENT
THERE IS REALLY
FAST AND DEEP,
SO ANYTHING
THAT FALLS IN
USUALLY DOESN'T
COME BACK OUT.

I HEARD
FROM MY
SISTER.



OH,
OKAY.



THAT'S
CONVE-
NIENT
FOR
US.



WHY
THE LONG
FACE?

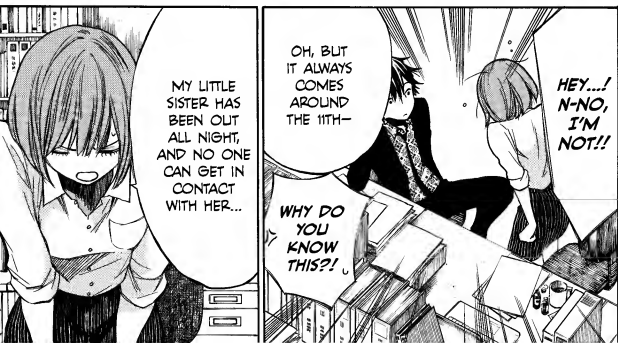
...



OH.
ARE YOU
ON YOUR
PERIOD?

OH,
GOD!
MR.
FUJII!!

When did you get u
here...?



MY LITTLE
SISTER HAS
BEEN OUT
ALL NIGHT,
AND NO ONE
CAN GET IN
CONTACT
WITH HER...

OH, BUT
IT ALWAYS
COMES
AROUND
THE 11TH-

WHY DO
YOU
KNOW
THIS?!

HEY...!
N-NO,
I'M
NOT!!



YOU
SURE SHE'S
NOT JUST
GOOFING
OFF SOME-
WHERE?
SHE IS THAT
AGE.



HIGH
SCHOOL,
SECOND
YEAR.

HOW
OLD IS
SHE?



...IT SEEMS
LIKE ALL FIVE
OF THEM
HAVEN'T COME
HOME, SO
YOU'RE
PROBABLY
RIGHT...

SHE
HAS HER
GROUP OF
FRIENDS,
BUT...



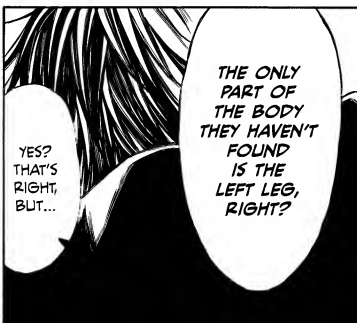
HEY.

WELL... I'D
BE REALLY
WORRIED IF
SHE WERE
ALONE, BUT
IF SHE'S IN
A GROUP...



WHAT
IS THIS,
ALL OF A
SUDDEN
?

SO THE
LEFT LEG
MUST BE
BURIED IN
ONE LAST
PLACE.



YES?
THAT'S
RIGHT,
BUT...

THE ONLY
PART OF
THE BODY
THEY HAVEN'T
FOUND
IS THE
LEFT LEG,
RIGHT?



IN
THAT
SAME
TOWN
...

?



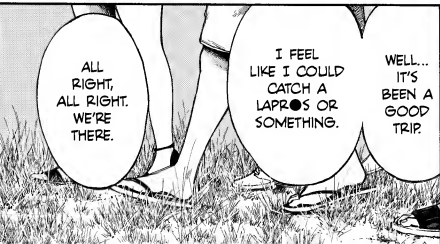
A
DISMEMBERED
BODY WAS
DISCOVERED
IN FIVE
DIFFERENT
PLACES IN
A CERTAIN
TOWN...



FIVE
BOYS
AND
GIRLS
...



...GO
MISSING,
HUH...?



ALL
RIGHT,
ALL RIGHT.
WE'RE
THERE.

I FEEL
LIKE I COULD
CATCH A
LAPROS OR
SOMETHING.

WELL...
IT'S
BEEN A
GOOD
TRIP.



WHOOSH
WHOOSH

WHOOSH

WHOOSH

YOU
THINK THIS
PLACE'LL
CUT IT?

YEAH...





The Thirty-Third Night



IT'S LIKE...
YOU'RE
IMPLYING
THAT HARUKA
IS INVOLVED
WITH THIS
CASE...!!

DON'T
"WHAT"
ME!



...BUT...

...I'M NOT
SAYING THAT
SHE IS.



...THAT
SHE
DEFI-
NITELY
ISN'T?

...CAN
YOU
SAY...



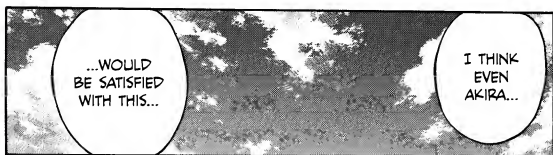






THIS
REALLY
IS THE
PERFECT
PLACE.

OH, WOW.
THAT'S
SCARY...



...WOULD
BE SATISFIED
WITH THIS...

I THINK
EVEN
AKIRA...



I...DON'T
HAVE A
FAMILY,
SO IT'S
WHATEVER
FOR ME,
BUT—

ARE
YOU
GUYS
REALLY
ALL
RIGHT?

...HEY.



WE ALL
SWORE
TO EACH
OTHER
YESTERDAY.

WOULD
YOU PLEASE
QUIT TALKING
LIKE THAT?



EXACTLY.
AND
BESIDES...



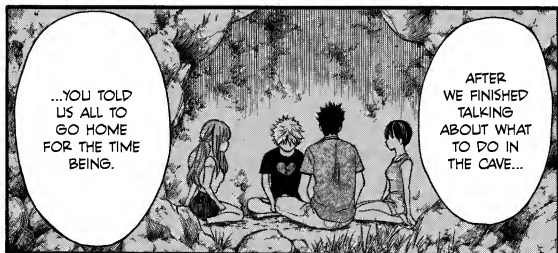
THIS...
IS OUR
ONLY
PATH
NOW.

NO
MATTER
HOW
MUCH
GRIEF OR
DESPAIR
IT BRINGS
TO THE
PEOPLE
AROUND
US...

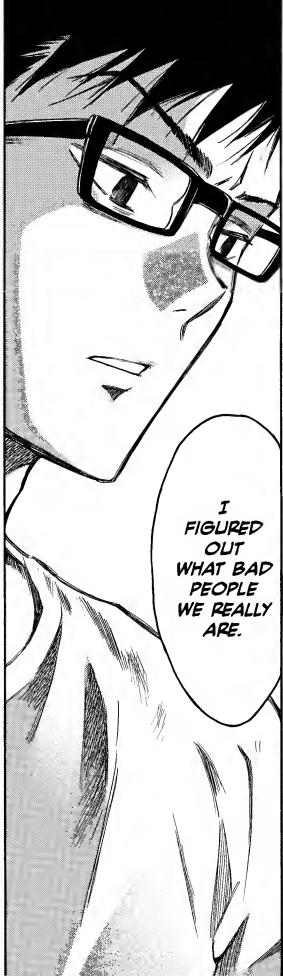


...THE FACT
THAT WE'RE
ALL HERE
RIGHT NOW
IS PROOF
THAT WE'RE
PREPARED!

WHAT
...?







I
FIGURED
OUT
WHAT BAD
PEOPLE
WE REALLY
ARE.

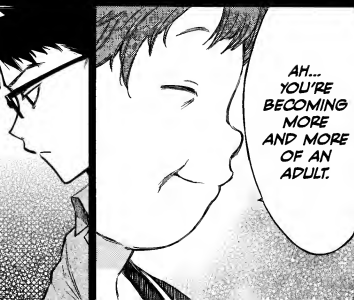


..."THIS"?



YEAH?
WHAT
ELSE?

WHAT
DID YOU
FIGURE
OUT?





MY
MOM'S
ALWAYS
HAD
THAT
BOTTOM-
LESS
CHEER.

SPLSH
110



EXCEPT...
THAT
DAY...



YOU
GOOD-
FOR-
NOTHING
SON!!

HAVE
YOU
FORGOTTEN
EVERY-
THING I'VE
TAUGHT
YOU?!



HEY...
HONEY,
PLEASE
CALM
DOWN—

HEY, RYU!!
DID YOU
GET INTO
A FIGHT
AGAIN?!

OH,
SHUT
UP...!
WHAT
ABOUT
IT?



...!

...THE ONE
THING I
EXPECT IS
FOR YOU
TO BE A
DECENT
HUMAN
BEING, NO
MATTER
WHAT!!



I DON'T
CARE IF
YOU'RE
NOT
SMART...
BUT...



**SHUT
UP!!!**



I'M
ONLY
...

I'M
ONLY
...!!



MY LIFE...
MY LIFE
AIN'T
WORTH
ANYTHING
...!!



SHUT
UP..





...SEE
MY MOM
LIKE
THAT
AGAIN.



I DON'T
EVER
WANNA...



HM?



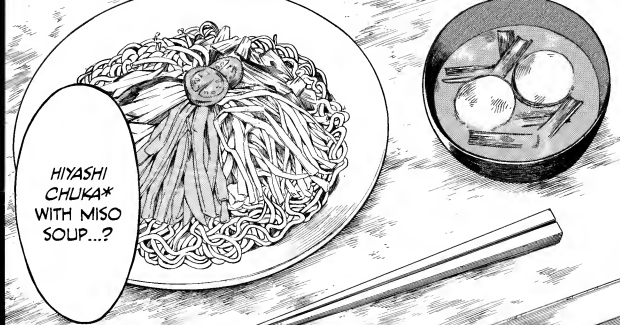
DINNER'S
READY!

YEAH.



BUT...

...IF I
LEAVE
TONIGHT,
IT'LL
HAPPEN
AGAIN...



*Hiyashi chuka (lit. "chilled Chinese") is a Japanese dish of chilled ramen noodles with various toppings.



**Hiyashi chuka and miso soup can be considered a weird combination.





DID
SOME-
THING
HAPPEN?



...WHEN
YOU'RE YOUNG,
SOMETHING'S
ALWAYS
HAPPENING...

WELL, I
GUESS...



...THAT'S
ENOUGH
FOR ME.

AS
LONG
AS YOU
FEEL A
BIT
BETTER
...

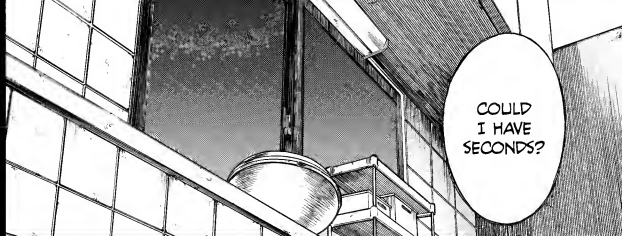


...HEY.

CHEER
ME UP WITH
FOOD... YOU
THINK I'M
A KID OR
WHAT?

HA...

HM?



COULD
I HAVE
SECONDS?



...WANNA
COOL
OFF
A BIT.

WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING,
RYU?



THANKS
FOR
THE
FOOD.



THANKS.

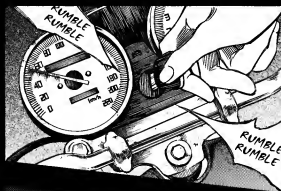


...HEY,
MOM.



NO
MATTER
WHAT...

I CAN'T
BETRAY MY
FRIENDS!!



SORRY
...

SORRY,
MOM...
I...





WELCOME
BACK,
HARUKA!



I'M
HOME!

The Thirty-Fifth Night



HUH
?

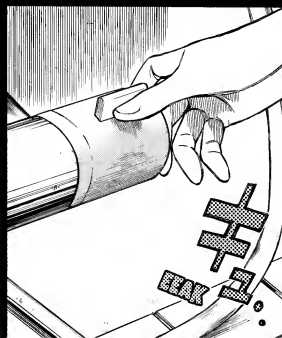
WHAT
WERE YOU
DOING
OUTSIDE?

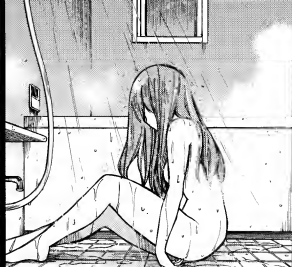
OH, NO,
YOU'RE
DIRTY!



I'M GONNA
GO TAKE A
SHOWER.

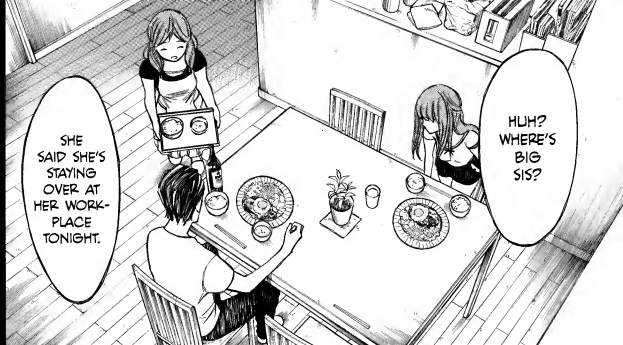
IT'S A
SECRET!





DINNER'S
READY!





SHE
SAID SHE'S
STAYING
OVER AT
HER WORK-
PLACE
TONIGHT.

HUH?
WHERE'S
BIG
SIS?



...STAYING
OVERNIGHT
CAN ONLY
MEAN ONE
THING...

OUTRAGEOUS!
AN UNMARRIED
WOMAN LIKE
HER...



HO
HO
HO
HO!

HEY
....!

THAT'S
GROSS,
DAD.

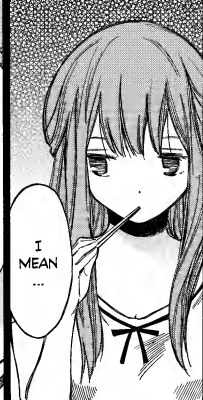


**SHE
ISN'T
CHANGING
HER
UNDER-
WEAR!!!**



EVEN
THOUGH
I THINK
IT SEEMS
DREADFUL
TO WORK
FOR THE
POLICE...

BIG SIS
REALLY IS
WORKING
HARD.



I
MEAN
...



THAT'S
WHY SHE'S
OVERWORKING
HERSELF.
IT'S FOR US.



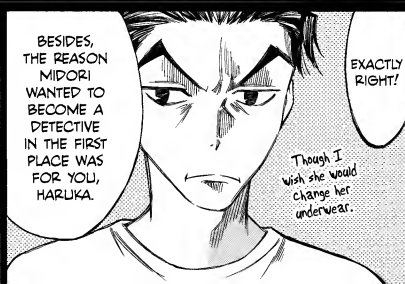
THERE
WAS A
CASE JUST
RECENTLY,
WASN'T
THERE?



OH,
HARUKA!
YOU
SHOULDN'T
SAY THINGS
LIKE THAT.



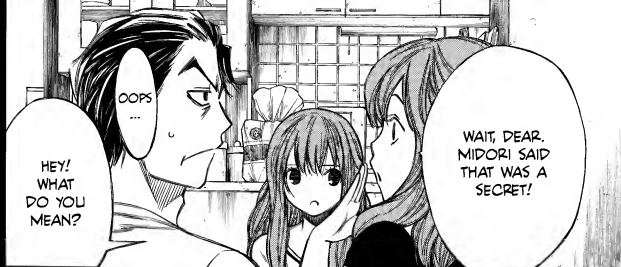
WHAT
?



BESIDES,
THE REASON
MIDORI
WANTED TO
BECOME A
DETECTIVE
IN THE FIRST
PLACE WAS
FOR YOU,
HARUKA.

EXACTLY
RIGHT!

Though I
wish she would
change her
underwear.



HEY!
WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

OOPS
...

WAIT, DEAR.
MIDORI SAID
THAT WAS A
SECRET!



WELL...
NO HARM
IN SAYING
IT NOW,
RIGHT?

...



...THERE WAS
A TIME A
SUSPICIOUS
STRANGER
NEARLY TOOK
YOU AWAY.

UM...
WHEN YOU
WERE VERY
LITTLE...



THE FIRST
PERSON TO
FIND YOU
WAS MIDORI,
BUT...



AND
COULDN'T
MOVE
AT ALL.



SHE WAS
AFRAID...

...AND SO
NOTHING
ACTUALLY
HAPPENED,
BUT...

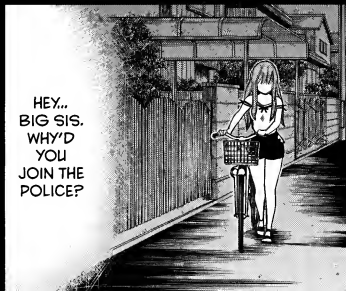
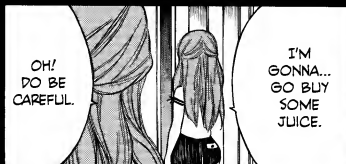


YOUR DAD
HAPPENED TO
COME BY AT
THAT TIME...

SHE FELT
HORRIBLE
THAT SHE
COULDN'T
HELP YOU...



...MIDORI
CRIED A
RIVER
AFTER-
WARDS.





I
CAN'T
TELL
YOU
THAT.



ISN'T IT
HARD WORK
BEING A
DETECTIVE?

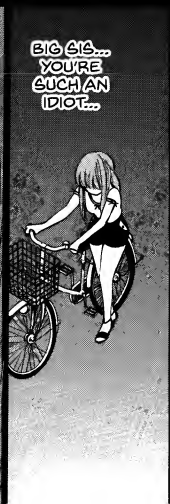


YOU CAN'T
BECOME ONE
IF THERE ARE
ANY CRIMINALS
IN YOUR FAMILY,
SO I'VE HEARD.

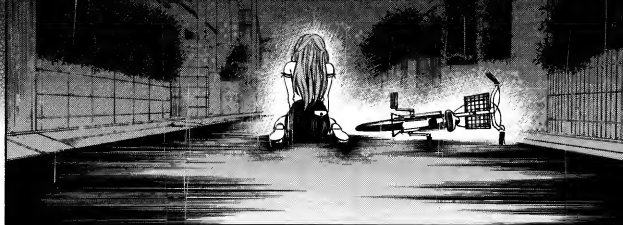
ABOUT
THE
POLICE...



YOU'RE
SUCH AN
IDIOT...!!!!



BIG SIS...
YOU'RE
SUCH AN
IDIOT...





I'M
HOME.

*The
Thirty-Sixth
Night*





SAKURA-
KO.

WELCOME
BACK.



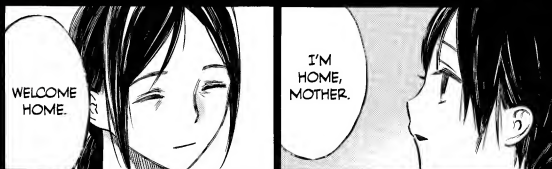
GRAND-
MA!

WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?
I ONLY
SEE—



HUH?

GRANDMA,
I'M
TSUBAKI.





DID YOU
FIND ANY
PLACE THAT'D
LEND ANY
MONEY?

...SO?

WELCOME
HOME,
DEAR.



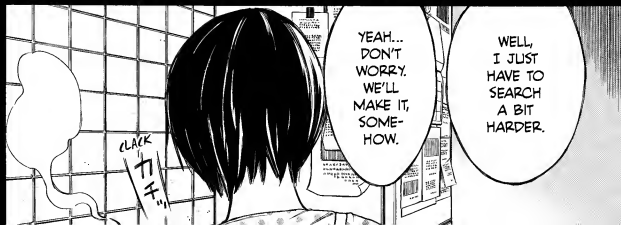
NO... THERE
ISN'T REALLY
ANYWHERE
THAT'LL LEND
ENOUGH MONEY
TO REBUILD A
COMPANY...

OH...



YEAH...
GRANDMA'S
HERE,
AFTER
ALL.

HAVING
SAID THAT,
WE CAN'T USE
THE HOUSE AS
COLLATERAL,
EITHER...



YEAH...
DON'T WORRY.
WE'LL
MAKE IT,
SOME-
HOW.

WELL,
I JUST
HAVE TO
SEARCH
A BIT
HARDER.

CLACK

77
77





NO, WE
DON'T, BUT...
AT THIS RATE,
IT'LL BE A
BURDEN
ON YOU...

BUT WE
DON'T HAVE
THE MONEY
TO SEND HER
TO A SENIOR
HOME, DO
WE?



AFTER
ALL...

THAT'S
ALL
RIGHT.



GRANDMA'S
JUST
GETTING
WORSE AND
WORSE,
HUH...

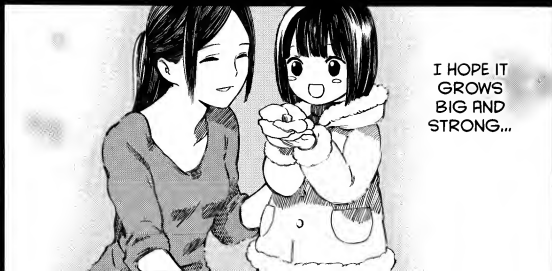


...TSU-
BAKI
WITH
US.

WE
HAVE
...





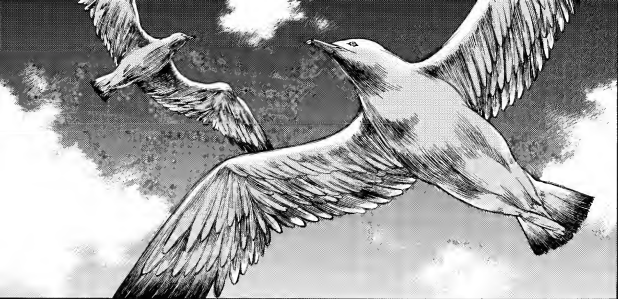


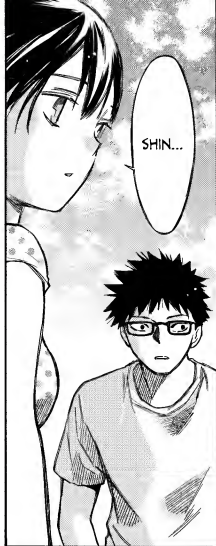
A black and white manga-style illustration. On the left, a person with short hair, wearing a sleeveless top and shorts, is kneeling on the ground, facing away from the viewer towards a large, leafy bush. The background is simple, with some foliage and a light sky. On the right, there is a close-up of a hand reaching out and touching a leaf of the same bush. A speech bubble is positioned between the two panels.

WHY
...?

A close-up, black and white manga-style illustration of a person's face. The person has dark, long hair and is looking down with a sad or contemplative expression. A single tear is visible on their cheek. They are wearing a garment with a small, repeating pattern. A speech bubble is located in the bottom right corner.

WHY...
DID IT
COME
TO THIS
...?





SHIN...



NONE
OF YOU
CAN
OUTDO
ME,
SO...

...DON'T
WORRY.



...TO
EVER BE
HAPPY?

WHAT
DID
WE
DO...



...HEY.



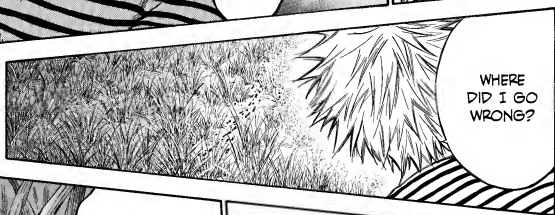


BECAUSE
I WANT
US TO BE
HAPPY...

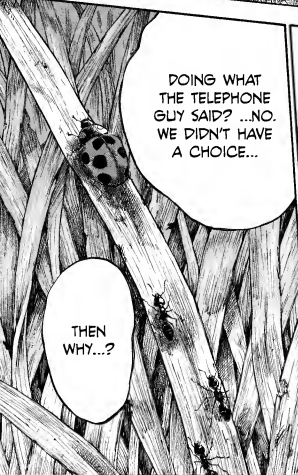
I JUST...
I'VE BEEN
WORKING
SO
HARD...



HUH?



WHERE
DID I GO
WRONG?



DOING WHAT
THE TELEPHONE
GUY SAID? ...NO.
WE DIDN'T HAVE
A CHOICE...

THEN
WHY...?



SHIN...









...DON'T
REGRET
ANY
OF THE
THINGS
WE'VE
DONE
UNTIL
NOW.

I...



HMPH
!

WELL,
YOU BE
HONEST,
TOO,
THEN.



...IS WHAT
WE'RE
GONNA
DO NOW,
RIGHT?

WELL,
WHAT
MATTERS
...



...UGH.
TSUBAKI
SCORING
EVERY GOOD
GIRL POINT
AGAIN!







THEY
SAID
THEY'D
CONTACT
ME AS
SOON AS
THEY
HAD A
MATCH.

OKAY.
I LEFT MY
SEARCH
REQUEST
WITH THEM.

OH,
MIDORI!
WELCOME
BACK!

SO...
HOW IT'D
GO?



OKAY...



YEAH
...

DON'T WORRY,
MOTHER. IT'S
HER. I'M SURE
SHE'LL STROLL
RIGHT BACK IN
LIKE NOTHING EVEN
HAPPENED WHILE
WE'RE ALL HERE
WORRYING.



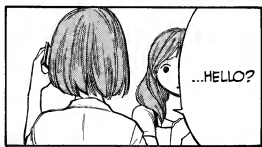
IN THAT
SAME TOWN...
FIVE BOYS
AND GIRLS
GO MISSING,
HUH...?

A
DISMEMBERED
BODY WAS
DISCOVERED IN
FIVE DIFFERENT
PLACES IN
A CERTAIN
TOWN...



IT HAS
TO BE!
HARUKA
COULDN'T
DO SOME-
THING SO
OUTRAGEOUS
...

IT HAS
TO BE A
COINCID-
DENCE!



...HELLO?

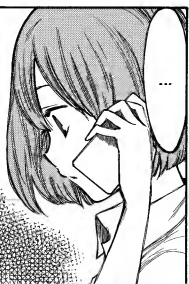
!

BEEP
BEEP



WE
FOUND
HER.
YOUR
LITTLE
SISTER.

NAGASE
?



...

We're
still
unsure
of the
details,
but...

WH...
WHERE
IS SHE
RIGHT
NOW?!



REALLY
?!



WHAT?



FELL...

WHOOSH

WHOOSH

...OFF
A
CLIFF
...?





BIG
SIS...





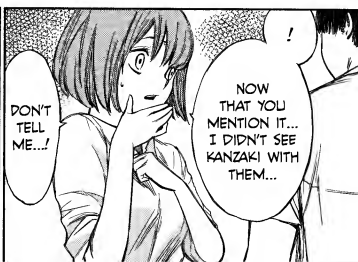
ABOUT THREE HOURS AGO...

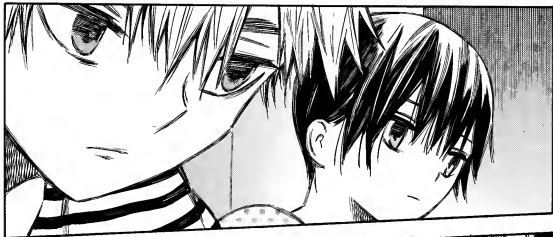


THEY'RE IN A STATE OF SHOCK RIGHT NOW.

I'LL EXPLAIN.

HERE.





SO, YEAH...
WE SHOULD
GO TO
THE POLICE
NOW.

THE
PRE-
VIOUS
DAY





AND
THEN
TELL 'EM
ABOUT
THE TELE-
PHONE
GUY...

THEN...
WE CAN
CONFESS
EVERYTHING.
CONFESS
WHAT WE
DID—OUR
CRIME...



SO...

THE
POLICE'LL
FIND
WHOEVER
KILLED
AKIRA.



...



HUH?

I
DON'T
WANT
TO.



I
DON'T
WANT
TO TURN
MYSELF
IN.



HEY
...!



I
MEAN
...

CLENCH



...YOU
STILL
THINK
BEING
ARRESTED'S
ALL
BAD?

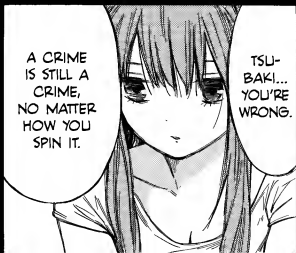
TSUBAKI...
EVEN
AFTER
ALL
THIS...



SHIN
WOULDN'T
BE ALIVE
RIGHT
NOW!

IF WE
HADN'T
KILLED
HIM FIVE
YEARS
AGO...

I
MEAN,
LISTEN
TO ME!



A CRIME
IS STILL A
CRIME,
NO MATTER
HOW YOU
SPIN IT.

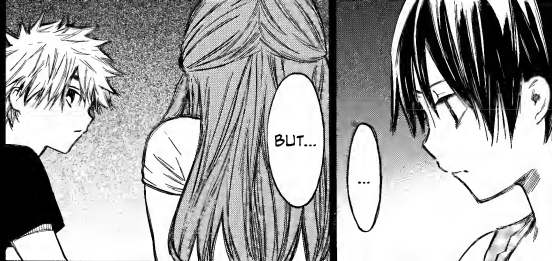
TSU-
BAKI...
YOU'RE
WRONG.



WE
HAVEN'T

...

...DONE
ANYTHING
WRONG!





I
CAN'T
LET IT
END
LIKE
THIS!



SHIN!

SHIN...
YOU'RE
DIFFERENT,
THOUGH,
RIGHT?!



...



SAY
SOME-
THING!

H-
HEY.

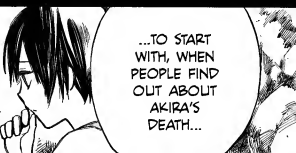


...SOME-
THING'S
WRONG
WITH YOU
GUYS!



...IF
THAT
WAS A
CRIME
...

BUT
I...







THE
WATER
IS DEEP,
AND THE
CURRENT
IS FAST...

AS YOU
KNOW, THAT
CLIFF IS
FAMOUS FOR
SUICIDES.



IS
THAT
RIGHT
...

HMM
...



ONE
IN
THREE.

THE
CHANCES
OF RE-
COVERING
A BODY
FROM
THERE
ARE ABOUT
...



THE
PREVIOUS
DAY,
10:30 PM



THAT'S
SO
SAD...



AKIRA...



SORRY
FOR THE
WAIT.







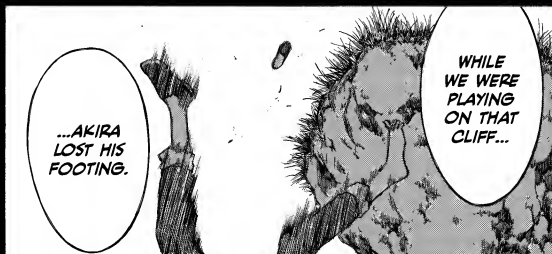
...WENT
ON A LITTLE
ADVENTURE.
AND THEN...

...TO-
NIGHT,
WE...



YOU'RE
GONNA
THROW
AKIRA
OFF
THERE?!

DON'T
TELL
ME...



...AKIRA
LOST HIS
FOOTING.

WHILE
WE WERE
PLAYING
ON THAT
CLIFF...



BUT...
NO MATTER
HOW HARD IT
IS TO RECOVER
A BODY FROM
THERE, THERE'S
STILL A CHANCE
OF RECOVERING
IT, RIGHT?

RIGHT,
HARUKA
?!

Y...
YEAH.



THAT
WAY, AKIRA'S
DEATH
WAS AN
ACCIDENT.

...



THAT'S
TRUE.

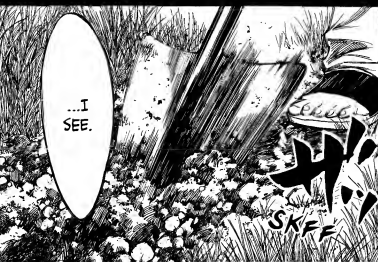
IF THE
BODY WERE
DISCOVERED...
AND PEOPLE
DISCOVERED
IT WAS
DISMEMBERED...
THAT'D JUST
MAKE THINGS
INFINITELY
WORSE FOR
US...



THEN
WE
CAN'T
DO IT.



IF THE
BODY
REALLY
SHOWS
UP...
THAT
IS.



...I
SEE.





...WE
JUST
NEED TO
COVER
OUR
TRACKS...

YEAH.
AFTER-
WARDS
...

SKFF



...PRETTY
AMAZING.
YOU CAN
REALLY
COME UP
WITH THIS
STUFF...

...YEAH.



MY BEST
FRIEND DIED,
AND ALL I
CAN THINK
ABOUT IS
HOW TO HIDE
THE BODY...

THIS IS THE
ONLY KINDA
STUFF I CAN
COME UP
WITH...



WE
BURY
THE
BODY
LIKE
THIS.

AND
THEN WE
MAKE
IT SEEM
LIKE HE
FELL.









IF
YOU
SAVE
HIM...

...I'LL
DO ANY-
THING...!
ANY-
THING!!

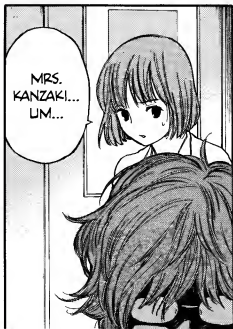


PLEASE
SAVE
AKIRA...
PLEASE...!



OH...
GOD,
I BEG
YOU...





MRS.
KANZAKI...
UM...



IT IS
YOUR
FAULT
...

YOU'RE
EXACTLY
RIGHT
...



HE WOULD
NEVER
HAVE DONE
ANYTHING TO
WORRY HIS
PARENTS!

HE'S...
A GOOD
KID!

HE'D NEVER
DO ANYTHING
BAD, MUCH
LESS GO OUT
IN THE MIDDLE
OF THE NIGHT
WITHOUT
PERMISSION!!



✕
GLARE !!

!



IF
AKIRA
DIDN'T HANG
OUT WITH
FILTH LIKE
YOU

...

...THIS...
NEVER
WOULD
HAVE
HAPPENED
!!!



I
SHOULD'VE
FORCED
YOU TO
GET OUT,
AFTER ALL!

YOU'RE...A
GOOD-FOR-
NOTHING
LAYABOUT,
JUST LIKE
YOUR DAD!



I'D HAVE
THOUGHT YOU
WERE A BIT
MORE OF A
PROPER GIRL...
BUT YOU'RE
A BRAZEN
WHORE!

AND
YOU!



ALL
THE
THINGS
YOU
DID IN
AKIRA'S
ROOM?!

YOU
THINK I
DIDN'T
NOTICE
?







THOSE
AWFUL,
LASCIVIOUS
CRIES!



WITH
THAT
BODY
!!!

YOU
SEDUCED
MY PURE
AKIRA!!



IT'S NOT
THESE
CHILDREN'S
FAULT!!!

PLEASE
STOP, MRS.
KANZAKI!



THAT
YOUR LITTLE
SISTER IS
ALL SAFE
AND
SOUND!!

OH,
HOW
NICE
FOR
YOU!!

IT WAS AN
ACCIDENT—

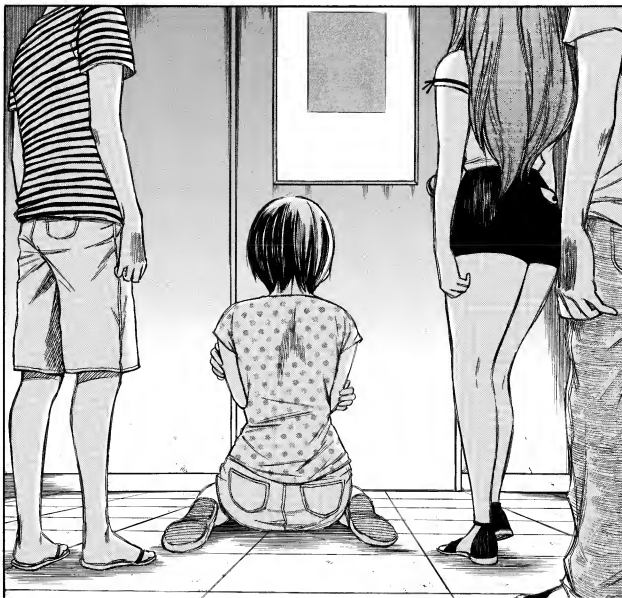


I WON'T
FORGIVE
YOU....!!
EVER....!!



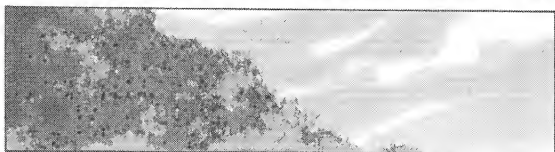
LET...
LET ME
GO!!

TAKE HER
OVER
THERE!!



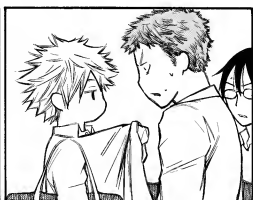


The Forty-First Night





















HOW
WAS I
SUP-
POSED
TO
KNOW
?!
?

THAT
WAS THE
ONLY
FLAVOR
LEFT, SO
DEAL
WITH IT!!

IF YOU'RE
GONNA
GET JAGA-
RINKO,*
YOU HAVE
TO GET THE
WASABI
MAYO!!

WHAT
IS THIS
SHISO**
FLAVOR
?!
?

*Slightly misspelled parody of a popular potato snack in Japan. **Plant with a variety of culinary uses, including eating with sashimi and cold tofu.



...ACTUALLY
LIKE SHISO
THE BEST...

I...



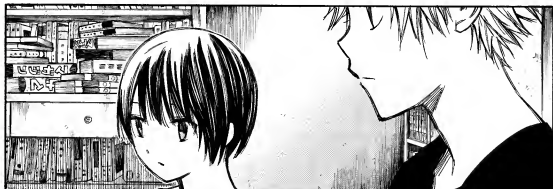
OH, YEAH.
WHERE'S
HARUKA?

OF
COURSE
IT'S NOT,
YOU
LITTLE
SHIT!!

CRUNCH
MUNCH.

W-WOW!
THE SHISO
FLAVOR ISN'T
SO BAD
AFTER ALL!
RIGHT,
RYU?!

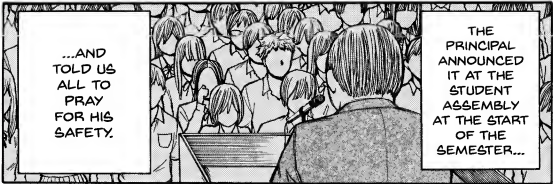
CRUNCH





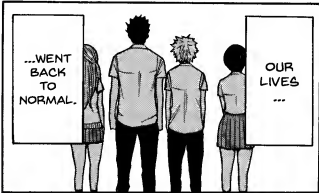
IN THE
END, WE
MANAGED
TO SETTLE
WHAT
HAPPENED
WITH
AKIRA
AS AN
ACCIDENT.

THANKS
TO THAT,
WE...



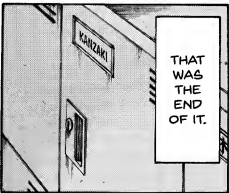
...AND
TOLD US
ALL TO
PRAY
FOR HIS
SAFETY.

THE
PRINCIPAL
ANNOUNCED
IT AT THE
STUDENT
ASSEMBLY
AT THE START
OF THE
SEMESTER...



...WENT
BACK
TO
NORMAL.

OUR
LIVES
...

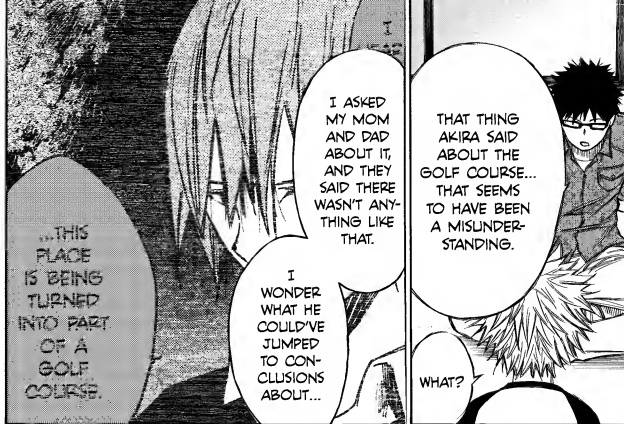


THAT
WAS
THE
END
OF IT.



THERE'S
ONLY ONE
REMAINING
PROBLEM
...





...THIS
PLACE
IS BEING
TURNED
INTO PART
OF A
GOLF
COURSE.

I ASKED
MY MOM
AND DAD
ABOUT IT,
AND THEY
SAID THERE
WASN'T ANY-
THING LIKE
THAT.

I
WONDER
WHAT HE
COULD'VE
JUMPED
TO CON-
CLUSIONS
ABOUT...

THAT THING
AKIRA SAID
ABOUT THE
GOLF COURSE...
THAT SEEMS
TO HAVE BEEN
A MISUNDER-
STANDING.

WHAT?



...

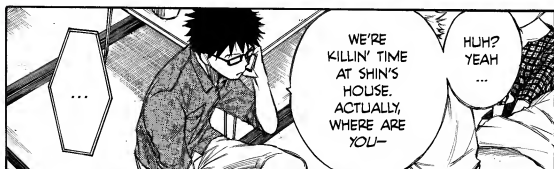


RING
RING
RING
RING
RING

OH...
NO. IT'S
NOTH-
ING.

SHIN?

brief moment





COME
HERE
RIGHT
AWAY.



We
need
to...

...put
an end
to this
for
real.



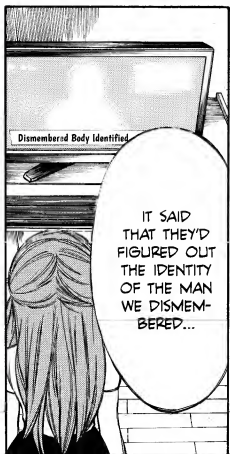


I'M
DISGUIISING
MYSELF, OF
COURSE!

PUSH



WHAT?



IT SAID
THAT THEY'D
FIGURED OUT
THE IDENTITY
OF THE MAN
WE DISMEM-
BERED...



THE
NEWS WAS
ON, A BIT
EARLIER.

WHAT
?



...SO?
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?
COMING ALL
THE WAY
OUT TO THE
CITY...



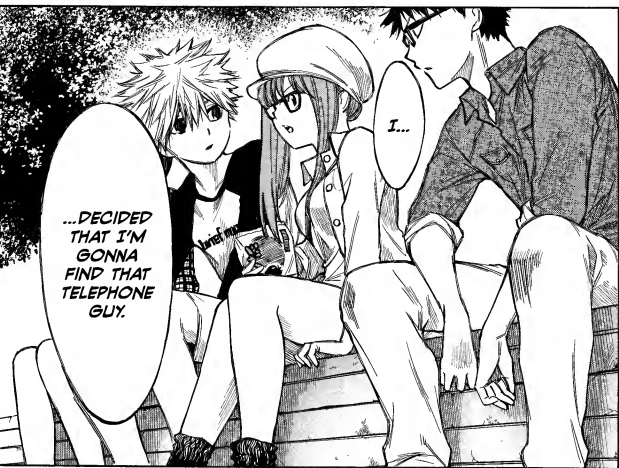
HARUKA...
WHAT
ARE
YOU...



...HOME-
LESS...

Shigeru Sato
(43 years old)

HE
WAS...

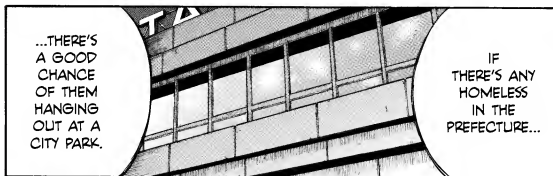


...DECIDED
THAT I'M
GONNA
FIND THAT
TELEPHONE
GUY.

I...



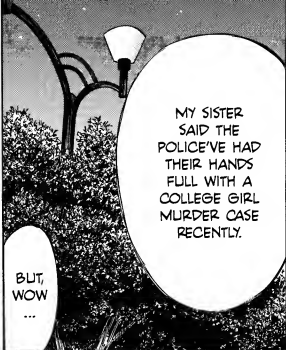
HEY...





YOU'RE
AMAZ-
ING,
HARU-
KA.

HUH?



MY SISTER
SAID THE
POLICE'VE HAD
THEIR HANDS
FULL WITH A
COLLEGE GIRL
MURDER CASE
RECENTLY.

BUT,
WOW
...



THAT'S
WHY YOU
CALLED
US...



YOU
FOUND
SOMETHING
CONNECTED
TO THE
TELEPHONE
GUY...

YOU
FOUND
SOME-
THING.





HEE
HEE.

HARUKA
...?



MY
HEART'S
BEEN
RACING
...

I'VE BEEN
HAVING A
LOT OF
FUN, LATELY...
THINKING
ABOUT WHAT
I COULD
DO IF I
GOT HIM...



SAVELCH
H
i
i
i
i
i

I WAS
SO
SCARED
WHEN
I WAS
THE ONE
BEING
CHASED...

BUT
IT'S FUN
DOING
THE
CHASING—



PLEASE
STOP!!



...WANT
TO BE
ABLE
TO LIVE
NORMALLY
...!

I
JUST
...

...HEY,
TSUBAKI.

...HUH?

DIDN'T
YOU
VOMIT?

DURING
COOKING
PRACTICE.

I BITTERLY,
BITTERLY
HATED THE
TELEPHONE
GUY.
...BUT...

WHEN
AKIRA
FIRST
PASSED...

...REVENGE
WON'T BRING
AKIRA BACK.



EVER
SINCE
THEN...



YOU
HAVEN'T
BEEN
ABLE TO
CUT
MEAT,
RIGHT?



YOU'RE JUST
PRETENDING
NOT TO
NOTICE!
LEAVING
THE WOUND!
...BUT...

IT'S NOT
OVER...
NOTHING
IS!



...



ONE
DAY,
IT'LL
START
TO
ROT.

7.
"I
GRIP"

IF YOU
JUST
LEAVE IT
ALONE
...





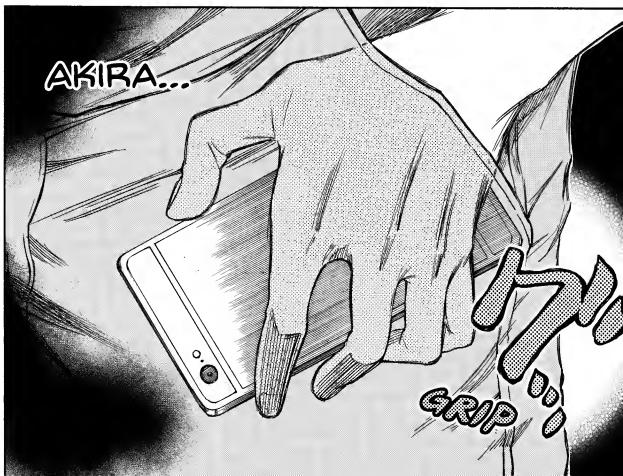
THERE IS
ONE THING
I COULD
CONFIRM.



THAT THING
AKIRA SAID
ABOUT THE
GOLF COURSE...
THAT SEEMS
TO HAVE BEEN
A MISUNDER-
STANDING.



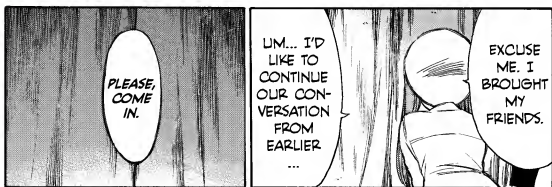
ISN'T
THAT
RIGHT?



AKIRA...

GRIP







HOW
DO
YOU
DO?





THAT'S MY UNDERWEAR.
SADLY, I
DON'T POSSESS A
RUG.

...WHAT'S...
THIS...?

AAAAAH!!



THIS IS
WHY I
WARNED
YOU.

HEY,
HARUKA!
IS SHE
OUT
OF HER
MIND?!



WHAT?!
"COMFORT-
ABLE"?!
WELL, UM...
THEY'RE
FINE, I
GUESS.

BUT I
HOPE
THEY'RE
COM-
FORTABLE
NONE-
THE-
LESS!



MR.
SHIGE?

WANTED
TO ASK
ABOUT
MR. SHIGE,
CORRECT?

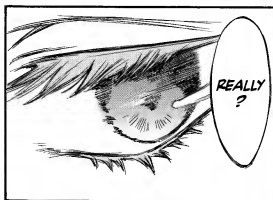
SO,
YOU
ALL...

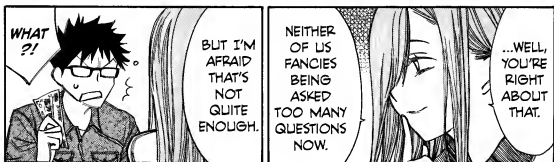


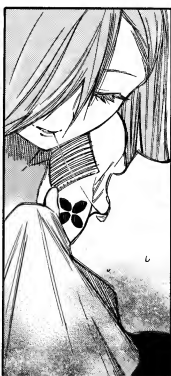
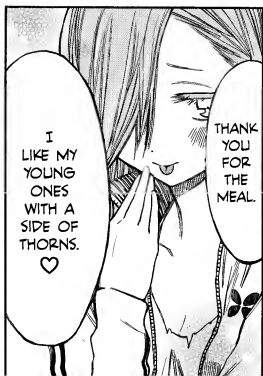
IT...

YES, IT'S
ABOUT
MR.
SHIGE...

OH...
I GET IT.
SHIGERU
SATO. MR.
SHIGE.











The Forty-Fourth Night



MMMM
...

NNGH...

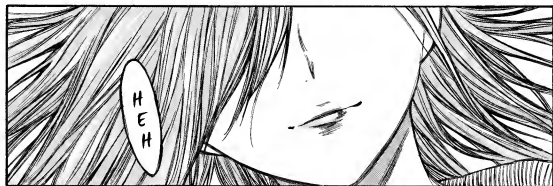




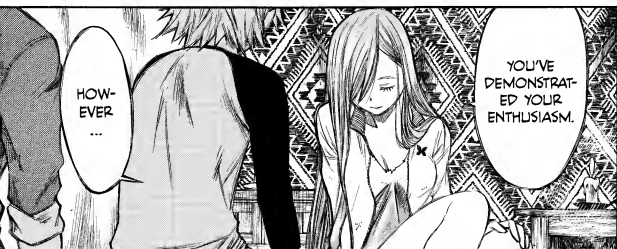
...UNTIL
YOU'RE
SATISFIED
...!

IF YOU
NEED
MORE,
I'LL PAY
YOU
WHATEVER
IT
TAKES...

brief moment



H
E
H



HOW-
EVER
...

YOU'VE
DEMONSTRAT-
ED YOUR
ENTHUSIASM.



...



...DOES
LITTLE TO
SATE HER
APPETITE,
I HOPE
YOU
KNOW?

KISSING
A WOMAN
SO BADLY,
LIKE SOME
STARVING
DOG...

HEE
HEE



SO
HE'S
BAD
...

THAT
WAS
BAD?

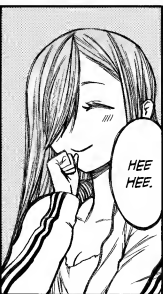


SHIN...
ARE
YOU
BAD?



WELL,
YOU DO
AMUSE
ME... SO I
SUPPOSE
I'LL TALK
THIS TIME.

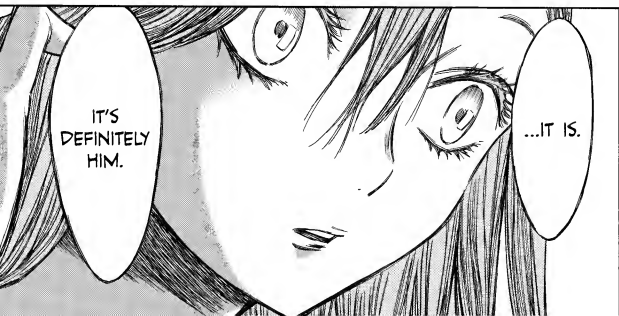
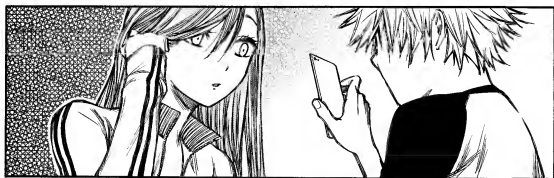
REALLY
?!



HEE
HEE.









DO I
HAVE ANY
REASON
TO LIE?

REALLY?



WHY
DOES
SHINTARO
KNOW
ABOUT
HIM...?

HEY...
HOLD
ON.



...THAT'S
HOW IT
WAS...!

SO...



**GIMME
THAT!!**

**HEY...
SHE
ASKED
YOU
HOW
YOU
KNEW!!**

WHIP



**...WHAT
?**

**...WHO
KNEW.**

**...IT
WASN'T
JUST
ME...**



YOU
ALL KNEW,
TOO,
DIDN'T
YOU?

To be continued in Volume 4...



Extra: "To Change, To Change Back"



WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING,
RYU?



WHAT
IS HE
GLARING
AT US
FOR...?

WHAT
...?



I...
I'M...



I'M
SCARED
OF
GOIN'
IN...

I
WANTED
TO DYE
MY HAIR
BLACK,
BUT...



HARUKA
...



LEAVE
IT TO
ME.

WHAT?!
SAY THAT
AGAIN!!

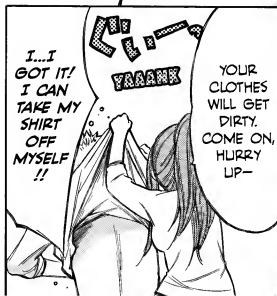


SIGH...
CLASSIC
YOU. BIG
BODY, NO
GUTS.



...YOU
CAN DO
THIS?

THIS IS
PEANUTS!



I...I
GOT IT!
I CAN
TAKE MY
SHIRT
OFF
MYSELF
!!

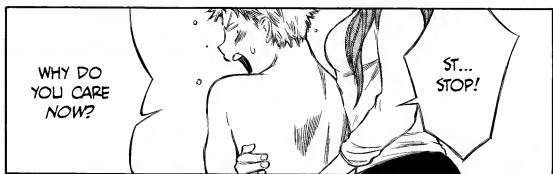
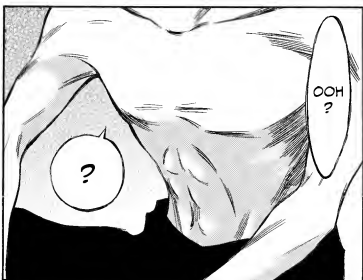
YAAANK

YOUR
CLOTHES
WILL GET
DIRTY.
COME ON,
HURRY
UP—



WHAT
?!

ALL
RIGHT,
WE'RE
READY TO
GO! TAKE
OFF YOUR
SHIRT.



...HOW
EVERYONE
KEEPS
CHANGING
...

IT
MADE
ME
THINK
ABOUT
...



FIN-
ISHED!



AH.

I...I
ACTUALLY
LOOK
SORTA
RESPECT-
ABLE
AGA-

WOW!
I DID
IT PERFECTLY
!





End

There is no time to be lost.

***...I ASSURE
YOU, YOUR
FRIENDS AND
FAMILIES
WILL SUFFER
GREATLY
FOR IT.***

***IF YOU
BREAK
YOUR
PROMISE
...***

The truth is a step away.

With Akira and Mr. Shige's connection now in hand, the four close in on the case's resolution. However, the deeper they dive, the more treacherous the waters, and any hope of escape fades to a glimmer of the past. If they don't make it in time, only ruin awaits.



**UNTIL
Your Bones
ROT**

Until Your Bones Rot 3

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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